

WARREN SENTINEL



"Jolly Rogers"

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Volume 65, Issue 26

F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo.

June 30, 2006

Fourth of July

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LIGHTS, CAMERA, CAPEX

Col. Heinz Ferkinghoff, NATO deputy director for nuclear policy, is interviewed by Channel 13 out of Casper, Wyo., and Channel 9 from Denver. More than a dozen media organizations, local and international, covered CAPEX June 20 to 22. The capabilities demonstration exercise showcased to members of the NATO-Russia Council, including Colonel Ferkinghoff, the United States' ability to respond to a nuclear weapons accident. Turn to Page 12 for more CAPEX photos and information.

Photo by Justin Nestorick

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Commentary

AFSPC commander sends Independence Day message

General Kevin P. Chilton

Commander, Air Force Space Command

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.—Cathy and I are proud to celebrate this 4th of July as members of the Air Force Space Command family, and we are overwhelmed with the warm welcome you have given us. I continue to be impressed with the dedication, professionalism and patriotism of the command's active-duty, guard, reserve, civilian and contractor personnel ... each of you is truly a national treasure.

This holiday carries special significance, as thousands of service men and women are deployed around the world, or standing watch here at home, defending the very freedoms our forefathers fought so hard to establish 230 years ago. Let us keep our Airmen's sacrifices foremost in our thoughts and their families in our hearts as we fight this long war for the preservation of our hard-won freedoms.

Our nation's birthday is a time of celebration, and a time to relax with family and friends. You have worked extraordinarily hard this past year, and your efforts have not gone unnoticed or unappreciated. You've earned this long weekend, so enjoy it. But whatever your activities, please remember to put safety first. I need you, and your Air Force needs you back on the job July 5 rested, healthy and reenergized for the fight at hand.

Commanders and supervisors, look your troops in the eyes and emphasize you need to consider risks and act responsibly this weekend. Airmen, plan

your activities in advance, identify the potential hazards and take the necessary precautions to make this a mishap-free holiday weekend. Use the proper protective equipment for your planned activity, and get plenty of rest. Please don't let fatigue or alcohol impair your judgment. Every AFSPC base has a program to provide rides for those who need one, and I encourage you to take advantage of these services if you find you've had too much to drink.

If you're celebrating on the water, ensure you do not go alone—use protective equipment and avoid alcohol. We have already lost one member of the AFSPC family due to drowning—that is one too many. Be a good wingman and take care of your fellow Airmen, coworkers and friends. Remember, safety is a choice—don't take it for granted.

Every one of you is vital to our command's success. Cathy and I wish you a happy and safe Independence Day, full of celebration, relaxation and reflection! God bless and God speed.

Street Talk

The Warren Sentinel asked members of the 90th Mission Support Squadron, "What is your summer safety tip?"



"Make sure you wear sunscreen."

- Airman 1st Class
Randal Flatt



"Don't leave your children near a pool unattended."

- 1st Lt. Kathy Vorenkamp



"Stay away from the college scene."

- Airman 1st Class
LaRentae Waters



"Make sure you cool your food well especially during barbecues."

- Tech. Sgt. Sharon Green

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DEADLINES:

Articles are due to public affairs, Building 250, room 201, by 4:30 p.m. Thursday the week before publication. Classified ads are due by 11 a.m. Tuesday the week of publication.

Classified ads can also be dropped off or mailed to Wyoming Newspapers, Inc., 202 E. 18th St., by 1 p.m. Tuesday the week of publication. Articles and ads that don't meet these deadlines won't be considered for that week's issue. Edito-

rial content is edited, prepared and provided by 90th Space Wing Public Affairs of Warren Air Force Base, Wyo., of Air Force Space Command. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. Public affairs reserves the right to edit content to conform to style and space requirements. Articles run on a space-available basis.

Direct questions or comments to the SENTINEL at 773-3381 or e-mail at Sentinel@warren.af.mil.

Published by:
Wyoming Newspapers, Inc.
202 E. 18th St., Cheyenne, WY, 82005
(307) 632-5666
Sentinel@warren.af.mil

AF leaders send Independence Day message

The following is an Independence Day message from Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley.

WASHINGTON --“Happy Birthday, America! For 230 years, this nation and its people have represented freedom and democracy. We earned that reputation through courageous acts of patriotism by our founding fathers and through bravery on battlefields across the world. Today we mark not a resounding victory in a great battle, but instead the day when we

“THIS YEAR, AS YOU GATHER TO CELEBRATE THE FOUNDING OF OUR GREAT NATION, PAUSE A MOMENT TO REMEMBER OUR HEROES CURRENTLY SERVING AWAY FROM HOME.”

- Michael W. Wynne
Secretary of the Air Force
- Gen. T. Michael Moseley
Air Force Chief of Staff

stood up as a free and independent nation and told the world we would no longer live under

tyrannical rule.

“This year, as you gather to celebrate the founding of our

great nation, pause a moment to remember our heroes currently serving away from home, fighting to preserve the very same freedoms the patriots before us secured. Their efforts are helping us soar to a future bounded by limitless horizons.

“You, the men and women of America’s Air Force, reflect the generations of patriots who, through their actions, displayed the values of integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do. Thank you for your unyielding commitment, and have a happy and safe 4th of July!”

Commander's Action Line

You asked, he answered

Question: Recently, I stopped by the visitor control center to obtain a temporary vehicle pass for a recently purchased vehicle. Having accomplished this procedure several times over the past three decades, I knew that to obtain a temporary pass I was required to have a valid driver’s license, proof of insurance and vehicle registration. I went inside, produced these documents, plus my retired military ID card. The AKAL Security officer on duty said he also required a bill of sale for the vehicle.

This got my attention as the only information on a bill of sale, which is not reflected on the Wyoming temporary registration, is the amount paid for the vehicle. I had to drive 15 miles, round trip, to get the bill of sale. The security officer was courteous, but had no idea why a bill of sale was required, nor did he know why the sign on the visitor’s center didn’t reflect this requirement. I got my three-day temporary vehicle

pass and left.

A few days later, I proceeded to the pass and registration office to obtain a 30-day temporary vehicle pass. Once again, I was asked to produce a bill of sale. I asked why a bill of sale was necessary when all of the information, excluding the purchase price, was already on the Wyoming temporary registration. The Airman assisting me did not know the answer to this question other than it was a requirement. I hastened to point out their sign did not list the bill of sale as a requirement either. I got my 30 day temporary vehicle pass and left.

The last time I registered a newly purchased vehicle on base was late January 2006. A bill of sale was not required at that time. I’ve researched AFI 31-204, and 90SW SUP1, thereto, and there is no requirement for a bill of sale for vehicle registration or a temporary pass. What has established this new change?

It appears to me that if a bill of sale is now required for vehicle registration, it would be a good customer service feature to advertise this fact via the Warren Sentinel, retired newsletters, plus updating the signs located at the VCC and the pass and registration office. Please advise. Thank you.

Answer: First, I apologize for the inconvenience. Having recently encountered a similar situation personally, I can empathize with your frustration. Yet, according to 90 Security Forces Squadron Special Security Instructions, a bill of sale is only required for a temporary pass when there are no permanent plates on the vehicle. If the vehicle does have permanent plates, a bill of sale is not necessary because the registration establishes ownership. As for the signs at the visitor control center and pass and ID, they show the supporting documentation required for DD 2220 (stickers), not temporary passes.



Security on our installation is paramount. However, just as you, I sometimes discover that the way we do things doesn’t seem to make sense. Usually, there is a good reason for our policies and procedures. But it is

always worthwhile to question if we are being effective. Thanks for asking the question on this one. We will do what we can to get the word out on our policies and procedures to avoid situations like this in the future.

Former astronaut takes command of AFSPC

Capt. Karim Ratey
Air Force Space Command
Public Affairs

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Gen. Kevin P. Chilton assumed command of Air Force Space Command in a ceremony here Monday presided over by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley.

Current and former national defense leaders, active and retired senior officers, community leaders and active-duty servicemembers gathered at the Peterson Air Force Base parade field to welcome AFSPC's newest commander. He succeeded Gen. Lance W. Lord who retired April 1.

General Chilton is the first astronaut to earn a fourth star, and pinned on the rank of general in a promotion ceremony the morning of his assumption of command.

In his speech, General Moseley illustrated General Chilton's capabilities to lead the command. "There is no one better prepared to lead Air Force Space Command today than General Kevin 'Chili' Chilton. 'Chili', you're a great commander, a great Airman, a great leader, a great astronaut—you know air and space power first hand; you understand the needs, the nuances of command, and you know the

challenges ahead of us as an air and space force," he said.

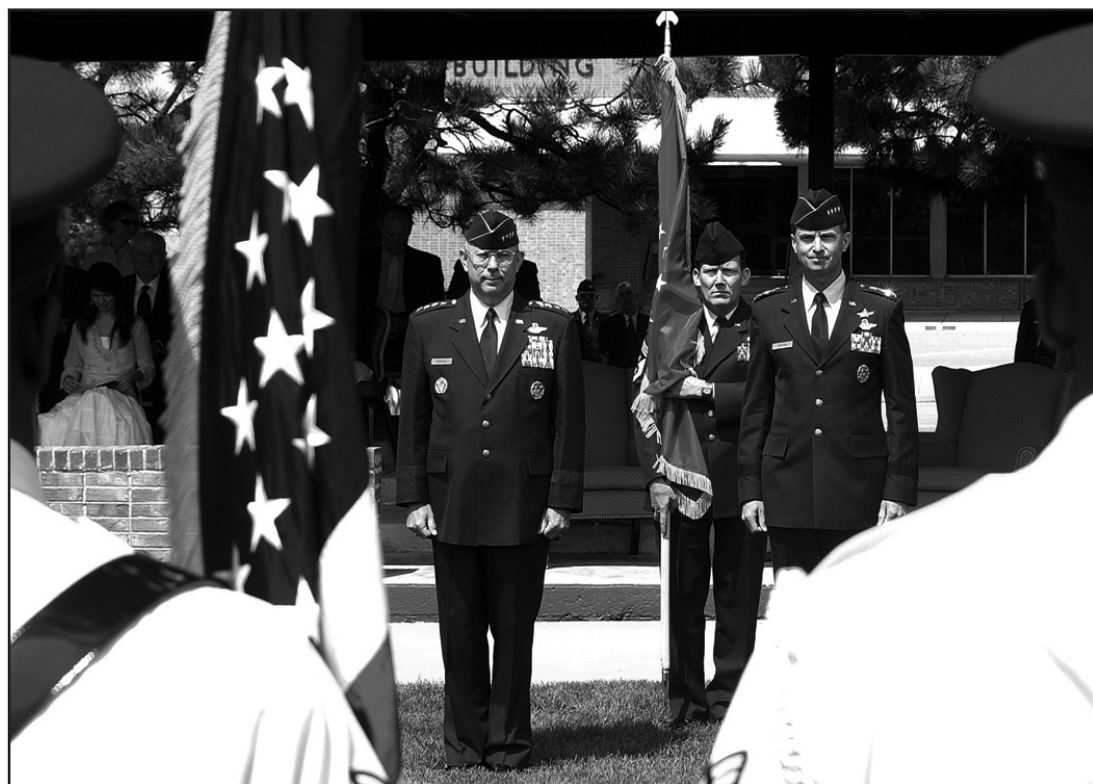
General Chilton said he was excited and humbled to lead a "fantastic team" of total force military, civilian and contractors who deliver Air Force space capabilities for the defense of the nation.

"This command really is unique compared to every other major command, in my opinion," said General Chilton. "I'm talking about the unique fact that every operational unit of this command is CHOP'd (change of operational control) to our nation's combatant commander for space (U. S. Strategic Command). We are in the fight, 24/7, 365 days a year."

General Chilton spoke briefly about upgrading the Minuteman intercontinental ballistic missiles, prompt global strike, responsive space capabilities and bringing improved situational awareness and command-and-control tools to teammates who deliver space capabilities to the fight.

He also spoke about AFSPC assets being an "invisible force."

The planet's most powerful strategic deterrent, the ICBM, exists out of sight, below the ground; the bits and bytes that transmit weather, warning, commu-



Courtesy photo

Gen. Kevin P. Chilton (right) assumes command of Air Force Space Command during a ceremony at Peterson Air Force Base June 26. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley (left) presided over the ceremony. In the center is Chief Master Sgt. Ronald Kriete, AFSPC command chief.

nications and navigation are transmitted through the ether to the end user; and the satellites are out of sight, but not out of mind, said General Chilton.

Speaking to the men and women of AFSPC, the general said, "To tell you the truth, I kind of like the idea of being invisible and powerful ... and that is exactly what you are. You are the power behind this great force."

General Chilton said his commitment will be to remain focused on organiz-

ing, training and equipping the command to provide the asymmetric advantage our Airmen bring to today's fight.

The general is a 1976 distinguished graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy. He is a command astronaut pilot with more than 5,000 flight hours.

General Chilton joined the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in 1987. At NASA he flew three space shuttle missions on Space Shuttles Atlantis and

Endeavor and served as the deputy program manager for operations for the International Space Station program.

He now leads nearly 40,000 space and missile professionals who provide combat forces and capabilities to USSTRATCOM and North American Aerospace Defense Command. General Chilton is responsible for the development, acquisition and operation of the Air Force's space and missile systems.

Warren Airman selected as Air Force elite

90 CONS superintendent chosen as one of Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year

Senior Airman Lauren Hasinger
90th Space Wing Public Affairs

On June 9, Senior Master Sgt. Michael Lemke received a call he'll never forget. He sat silent for a few moments trying to grasp what he just heard. On the other end was Air Force Space Command Vice Commander Lt. Gen. Frank Klotz who called to tell Sergeant Lemke he was selected as one of the Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year.

Though the 90th Contracting Squadron superintendent was sworn to secrecy by the general for nearly a week until the public announcement was made, it has been a whirlwind ever since.

"I have not fully grasped the whole idea that I am one of the 12 OAY," said Sergeant Lemke. "I'm still trying to soak it all in."

Lt. Col. William Lorey, 90 CONS commander, was in Sergeant Lemke's office when the call came from General Klotz.

"He was speechless for the first time since I've known him and deeply honored," said Colonel Lorey. "It is a great pleasure to serve with someone so dedicated. He inspires all of us to reach for greater heights in all aspects of personal and military life."

Out of about 352,000 active duty Airmen, few have and few will ever experience the same honor. But Ser-

geant Lemke isn't just any Airman.

He began his career in security forces. He described his early years as a "rough start" to his accomplished 19-year career. He said he lacked a little self discipline and didn't have the right supervisor to guide him along. That all changed when he decided to sign up for a security forces competition team and met a staff sergeant who took him under his wings. He said the NCO told him exactly what he was going to do to turn his career around.

"I learned a lot thanks to a supervisor that took the time to 'tell me like it is' and not just push paperwork my way," he said.

Sergeant Lemke is now able to mentor new Airmen and has advice for those who are having a rough start like he once had.

"No one on this Earth is perfect and I have certainly had my share of bumps along the road," he said. "One of the keys to overcoming trouble is to not let pride get in the way of moving forward. Humble yourself and your honor shall be upheld."

A few years into his career, Sergeant Lemke became a military training instructor at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. He credits this experience as the most rewarding time he's spent in the Air Force.

"I loved taking 62 individuals and training them into a cohesive team. Seeing them develop professionally

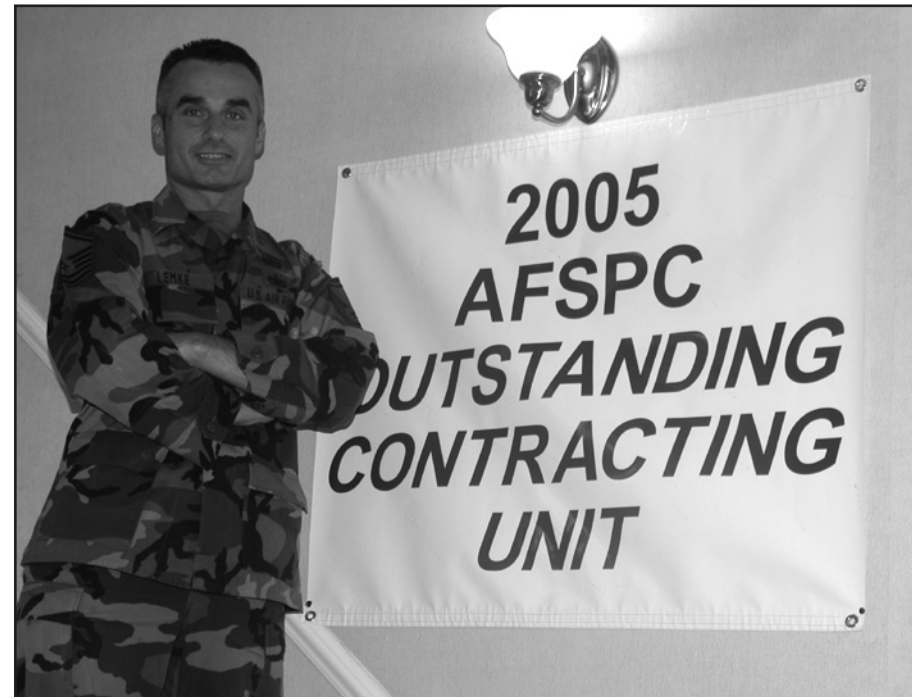


Photo by Senior Airman Lauren Hasinger

Senior Master Sgt. Michael Lemke was selected as one of the Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year. Sergeant Lemke is the 90th Contracting Squadron superintendent.

and watching them go from a bunch of clueless individuals into a sharp group of proud Airmen that I would be honored to serve with was tremendously satisfying to me," he said.

A man of faith, Sergeant Lemke said he works hard because it is his duty to do so and he does it as though he's working for God.

That faith may be what carried him through his deployment to Iraq last year. As he was rotating out of Baghdad he boarded a C-130 heading to Kuwait. With him were several American delegates and two Army Soldiers. The Soldiers, however, were laying in flag draped caskets, victims of a car bombing.

"I could not help to think that I was going home to a wonderful reunion

where my wife, two daughters, friends and coworkers would be welcoming me home," he said. "I was wondering what kind of reception these two Soldiers were going home to. That was one trip I shall never forget."

His deployment to Iraq was not the only reason for him being chosen as one of the 12 OAY. He was selected as the top graduate at the Senior Noncommissioned Officer's Academy, not just in his class, but out of 2,515 SNCOs who graduated in 2005.

"I don't know how it happened," he said. "I just went there and worked hard."

While he doesn't yet know what the future holds as an OAY, Sergeant Lemke said he stands ready to serve as always.

Course 14: Master sgt course to be done via Internet

Master Sgt. Steven Goetsch
90th Space Wing Public Affairs

On Thursday, 46 Warren technical sergeants received news they were selected for promotion to master sergeant.

One of the first things the master sergeant selects will be told after congratulations by their peers, is go to the education center and sign up for Course 12.

When the 06E7 class gets to the education center, they will be informed they have a new course available to them - Course 14.

The College for Enlisted

Professional Military Education officially changed over to the new course March 1. The course contents will remain the same. The method of delivery, however, changes. The main driver behind the change was user accessibility.

"In order for students to access Course 12, they must have the CD-ROM where they directly access the course or load the software to use without the CD-ROM. Either way, students still need to transport the CD-ROM, which can lead to disc damage or loss," said Master Sgt. Christopher Teate, CEPME. "With Course 14, students can access the course from any computer with Inter-

**"ONLINE DISTANCE LEARNING IS
EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT."**

- Master Sgt. Christopher Teate

College for Enlisted Professional Military Education

net access, alleviating the concerns of disc damage or loss," he added.

The new course concept has received good reviews at Warren.

"I know it's been hard here, when I finally found some time to study, only to remember I left my laptop at home, because there is no way to load the [Course 12] program in two places," said Master Sgt.

Johnny Goldfuss, 90th Missile Maintenance Squadron. "I'd be for the Internet based version as long as you can log on from anywhere."

A second reason for implementing Course 14 was the cost savings. Internet delivery of Course 14 eliminates the cost of CD-ROM purchase, duplication, storage and postage, said Sergeant Teate.

Most change is met with

some type of resistance and initial feedback showed some concerns with the new system during deployments.

"Deployed students have the opportunity to continue at the deployed location because most locations will have test administrators," said Sergeant Teate.

The former Course 12 served 25,000 students annually. Despite having only a few hundred people complete Course 14, the feedback so far has been nothing but positive from students and Air Force leadership.

"Simply, online distance learning is extremely effective and efficient," said Sergeant Teate.

Briefs

Change of command

The 90th Mission Support Group is holding a change of command ceremony 10 a.m. July 7 at Argonne Parade Field. A reception will immediately follow at the Trail's End Club. Col. Alvin Kemmet will relinquish command to Col. Ronald Jenkins. RSVP by today to 773-3100.

90 SW/JA closure

The 90th Space Wing Legal office is scheduled to close at 11:30 a.m. July 7. Normal business hours will resume at 8 a.m. July 10.

For more information, call 773-2256.

Suicide prevention briefing

Suicide prevention briefings are scheduled to be held at 1 p.m. today, 1 and 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, and 8 and 9:30 a.m. Thursday at the base theater.

90 OG excess furniture reallocation offer

The 90th Operations Group has excess furniture for any government agency in need. Photos of what is available can be seen on the base O-drive at O:/90OG/Furniture. All items must be picked up by 4 p.m. today. Delivery is not available.

Road closure

Nebraska Road will be closed for a water repair project from now until July 7. Buildings 1200 and 1250 will be affected.

For more information, contact the 90th Civil Engineer Squadron Customer Service at 773-3175.

90 CPTS closure

The 90th Comptroller Squadron will close from 1 to 2:30 p.m. today for a commander's call and retirement ceremony.

In case of an emergency, call 631-0599.

90 MDG closure for training

The 90th Medical Group will close on the third Thursday of every month at noon for medical readiness training.

A provider will be on call to discuss urgent medical concerns. To request a referral for urgent care, call 773-3461.

Warren begins using giant voice Reveille, retreat and taps now played

90th Space Wing Public Affairs staff report

Warren now has a giant voice system that will be used to play reveille, retreat and taps. The sounding of these honors is a special part of military culture and all base personnel will be expected to follow tradition and protocol.

Monday through Friday, reveille will be played at 7:30 a.m. and retreat will be played at 4:30 p.m. Reveille and retreat will not be played on official holidays except as directed by the wing commander. Every day of the week taps will be played at 10 p.m. The following outlines what both military and civilian personnel should do during reveille and retreat:

Reveille and retreat: Whenever and wherever the "National Anthem," "To the Colors," "Hail to the Chief," or reveille are played, at the first note, all personnel in uniform and not in formation should face the flag or the music (if the flag is not in view), stand at attention and



Courtesy photo

During reveille, retreat and taps, all military members in uniform are to render a salute to the flag. If a flag is not visible, render a salute toward the direction of the music.

render a hand salute. Hold this position until the last note of the music has been played.

When not in uniform, personnel should, at the first note, stand at attention facing the flag or the music (if the flag is not in view), remove headdress, if any, with the right

hand, and place the right hand over the heart. Hold this position until the last note of the music has been played.

All vehicles in motion should stop at the first note of the music and the occupants should sit quietly until the music ends.

To find out the latest information on base including FPCON, INFOCON, exercise information and applicable delays and closures

Call the Warren Straight-Talk Line 773-2222



Miller moths: Nuisances can be controlled

Elizabeth McClain
90th Civil Engineer Squadron

The annual migration has begun. By now, most everyone has noticed the most common nuisance moth in Wyoming and Colorado - the army cutworm, commonly called the miller moth.

Their one and a half to two inch wingspan is typical of the size of many other cutworms found in the state. It is gray or light brown and has wavy dark and light markings on the wings.

The migration of the miller moth normally lasts only about four weeks, although their annoyance can make it seem like they

are here all summer. Shortly after the moths emerge, they migrate to higher elevations in the mountains to feed on flowering plants, crossing the states to feed. The moths can be extremely annoying when they get into homes, cars and office areas, but ultimately they are harmless. They don't breed or feed indoors and when in the home, they will eventually either find a way out or die within a few days.

Moths will move through dry areas more quickly. To control the moths in the home keep doors and windows closed and reduce evening lighting (which attracts them). Ensure all screens on windows and doors have no holes in them. The

few that do enter can be controlled with fly swatters, vacuum cleaners, or they will die on their own in a few days. A simple and effective solution to a lot of moths is to place light about 18 inches over a partially filled bucket or a sink full of soapy water. Turn off all other unnecessary lights. The moths will be attracted to the light, fall or fly into the soapy water mixture and ultimately die. Chemical insecticides used to kill them do not do any good. Moths are not very susceptible to insecticides.

For questions or more information, call the 90th Civil Engineer Squadron Entomology office at 773-2657.

Tricare follows you during a PCS move

Info on Tricare and primary care managers when moving

Article courtesy of the 90th Medical Group Tricare Operations and Patient Administration office

With permanent change of station season upon us, Tricare beneficiaries should understand enrollment and primary care manager change rules under Tricare.

A Tricare Prime enrollee's PCM is at the core of an enrollee's health care, and ensuring continuous enrollment with no break in coverage is important.

When a beneficiary PCSs, active duty and family members can expect Tricare Prime coverage and benefits to continue. During and after the actual PCS move, beneficiaries need to do the following:

- If access to urgent care is required while traveling, the same notification rules apply as always—notify the PCM to obtain authorization for urgent care beforehand.

- If emergency care is needed while traveling, obtain care first, and then notify the managed care support contractor or PCM afterward.

- Tricare retail pharmacies can be used to obtain medications if needed, however, contact the managed care support contractor for the previous location before going to a retail pharmacy to learn which pharmacies participate in the current travel area.

- Enroll at the new duty location after the PCS move to ensure health coverage is not interrupted during the move.

Upon arrival at the new duty station, active duty and family members do need to transfer their enrollment to the new duty location and select a new PCM. Failing to transfer enrollment may cause the member or family to be billed under Tricare's Point of Service charges. Tricare Prime enrollees may change their PCM by visiting the nearest Tricare service center or by con-

tacting the MCSC to complete the necessary forms.

Next, an enrollee's PCM may change when the PCM moves to another duty location, separates, or retires. Occasionally, a PCM may become over-enrolled, having more enrollees assigned to him or her than what their capacity allows. Furthermore, a directed PCM change can occur due to internal staffing changes or restructuring within the military treatment facility.

In the previous examples when the MTF initiates the PCM change, the MTF must take certain actions. Most importantly, the MTF must contact the enrollee in writing to inform them of the PCM change. This notice must include the reason for the change to help the enrollee understand why the change is being made. Additionally, the enrollee must be given the name and contact information of an MTF point of contact from whom the enrollee can get more information.

While not required under Tricare rules, but rather as a matter of good customer service, there are additional actions the MTF should consider.

When notified, the enrollee should be given an opportunity to request a specific health care provider as their new PCM, if that PCM has capacity for additional enrollees. Also, if the enrollee and a newly assigned PCM are uncomfortable in their new relationship, the enrollee should be given the opportunity to request a different PCM. The MTF should make every effort to change the PCM in these situations. When PCM changes are due to over-enrollment, if requested the enrollee should be permitted to re-enroll to their previous PCM once enrollment for the previous PCM dips below capacity again.

PCM changes occur for many reasons, sometimes leading to uncertainty during the initial transition. MTFs must do everything possible to make the transition as seamless and as painless as possible. Enrollees can expect MTFs to take the above actions when PCM changes occur, and be afforded every opportunity to obtain a PCM they are comfortable with.

More information on various Tricare topics can be found at www.tricare.osd.mil.

Khobar Towers tragedy: 10 years later

How it changed Air Force focus on force protection

Staff Sgt. Phyllis Duff
Air Force Print News

SAN ANTONIO — It was around 10 p.m. on June 25, 1996, when Staff Sgt. Alfredo Guerrero went to check the security post on the rooftop of an eight-story Khobar Towers apartment building at Dhahran Air Base, Saudi Arabia. He asked the sentry on watch if everything was OK.

Below them, residents in the rooms were settling in for the night. Most were with the 4404th Wing -- protectors of the "no fly zone" in southern Iraq in support of Operation Southern Watch.

Some Airmen were writing letters or calling home. Some were playing cards or shooting pool in the recreation room. Others were showering and some were already asleep. For many, there were only a handful of days left on their tour before the "Freedom Bird" would fly them back home from their deployment.

As the two security policemen talked, Sergeant Guerrero noticed an olive drab gas truck following a white Chevy Caprice. Winding their way through the parking lot, the car came down the fence line and parked, flashing its headlights. The truck nudged its way up to the perimeter fence. A two-lane street ran between the fence and the building.

Two white-robed men wearing traditional red and white checkered headdresses got out of the truck and ran to the car.

Sergeant Guerrero's heart jolted. The sedan peeled out and was soon out of sight.

"At that point I knew that something pretty big was about to happen," Sergeant Guerrero said.

In a split second, he radioed the control center about what was happening. As he called for an evacuation of the apartment building, his sentry was on it, running for the rooftop door. A second sentry, who had been guarding the other side of the building, followed suit.

Fists pounding doors and scuffling boots echoed down the corridor of the eighth floor.

"We need to evacuate! Get out now!" the sentries yelled.

The doors crashed open and a growing group of Airmen scuttled down the stairwell to the seventh floor.

In the apartment building next door, an Airman lay down to sleep. He pulled a scratchy Army blanket over his head to keep out the meat-locker cold of his air-conditioned room.

"Just two more weeks and I'll be home," then Staff Sgt. Bob Oldham thought to himself, his eyes getting heavy.

Then there was a massive boom. The explosion rocked Sergeant Oldham's room and he froze. He thought the floors were collapsing as the intense sounds reverberated through the apartment complex.

The blast blew away the whole face of Building 131. The explosion's massive force twisted Sergeant Guerrero around. He checked himself to see if he was still alive.

"Everything went pitch black -- I couldn't see anything, couldn't hear anything," Sergeant Guerrero said. As the dust settled, "I was looking at the lights of downtown Dhahran," from where seconds before a concrete wall had stood.

All around him was wreckage. The wounds on his face didn't faze him as



Courtesy photo

Nineteen Airmen died and hundreds were injured in the terrorist attack at Khobar Towers in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, on June 25, 1996. The front of Bldg. 131 was blown off when a fuel truck parked nearby was detonated by terrorists.

he pulled bits of furniture and masonry off an Airman who a minute ago had been right behind him helping with the evacuation. Pulling the Airman to his feet, he put his arm around his shoulder and led him down the seven flights of stairs.

Sergeant Oldham sat up in bed and went to get up.

"Ow!" he said as a shard of glass dug into his barefoot heel. "I decided it was time to grab some shoes and my dog tags and get the hell out of there," said the former active-duty supply troop.

Outside, those who could helped the wounded and tended to the dead. The sergeant witnessed the rows upon rows of seriously wounded and bleeding. He attributes organization and everyone's will "to keep it together" as a key factor in minimizing the death toll.

"Self-aid and buddy care, an annual training, is what saved the victims. It'll save your life and that's the bottom line. You'd be surprised what comes back to you -- how to apply bandages, splint an arm, treating for shock," said Sergeant Oldham, now a master sergeant with the Arkansas Air National Guard.

After the tragedy, with three hours still left on his shift, Sergeant Guerrero

went back to his post and continued his vigilant watch.

"People were looking at me like I was a ghost or something," he said.

"As cops, we do this kind of stuff all of the time, and 99 percent of the time nothing ever comes of it," Sergeant Guerrero said. "Eventually it's going to count. That's why motivation and practice -- doing what you're supposed to do -- is so important."

Then on July 3, 1996 -- while still deployed in Saudi Arabia -- Sergeant Guerrero received the Purple Heart and Airman's Medal for his heroic actions from then Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman.

Security forces troops who come across him today know the sergeant is the hero who they've studied about in their career development course books and training.

It has been a decade since the tragic terrorist attack on Khobar Towers. The target? Americans. Nineteen Airmen died in the blast and hundreds of servicemembers -- including Saudis and those from other countries -- were wounded.

The tanker truck, packed with an estimated 5,000 pounds of plastic explosives, blasted the face off Bldg. 131, ripping the concrete face off the building housing America's troops. It left behind a crater

35 feet by 85 feet.

And it left countless scarred hearts.

The attack changed the way the Air Force viewed force protection. On June 21, 2001 -- almost five years to the day after the tragedy -- Attorney General John Ashcroft announced the indictment of 14 people on charges of murder and conspiracy in connection with the attack.

Antiterrorism took the forefront in the Air Force.

"The mentality of the Air Force has changed. Everything has changed," Sergeant Guerrero said. "I was glad to be a part of that. We've gotten so much better since that incident."

Because of the attack, the Air Force developed the Level II Antiterrorism course, increased stand-off distances, and improved communication.

"It's just sad that 19 people had to die for us to change our mentality," the sergeant said.

So Sergeant Guerrero believes that force protection is everybody's business.

"It doesn't matter who they are. Everybody's a

— **Khobar, Page 16**

LMR tech takes 'hamming' it up seriously

THE CIVILIAN PAVILION

Matt Cox
90th Communications
Squadron

Dale Putnam, land mobile radio technician with Warren contractor Remtech Services, has been playing with radios for years.

Besides the serious business of tending to the base's wireless and cable communication systems during the day, he tinkers with electronics on his own time.

Tinkers would be an understatement, though, as his recent project would illustrate.

Mr. Putnam is an amateur radio operator, or more commonly and lightheartedly referred to as a ham radio operator.

But as much fun as it is for him, he takes a competitive tack with this passion as well.

Mr. Putnam recently won the Amateur Radio Society's competition for creating the most interesting, and minuscule, amateur radio.

The competition was held on June 1, and he found out he won on June 7.

"It's just a very fun competition," he said. "We don't really getting any awards other than the pride

that comes with knowing we made something others notice."

Although it would be unnoticeable in casual view, it steals the show when he reveals what it is.

Inside an old Altoid's tin, that's right, about the size of a business card and as deep as thimble, rests Mr. Putnam's amateur radio transceiver; the ham radio.

He said it uses less power than a standard nightlight and has interchangeable bands that allow for 7, 10, or 14 megahertz of transmission power.

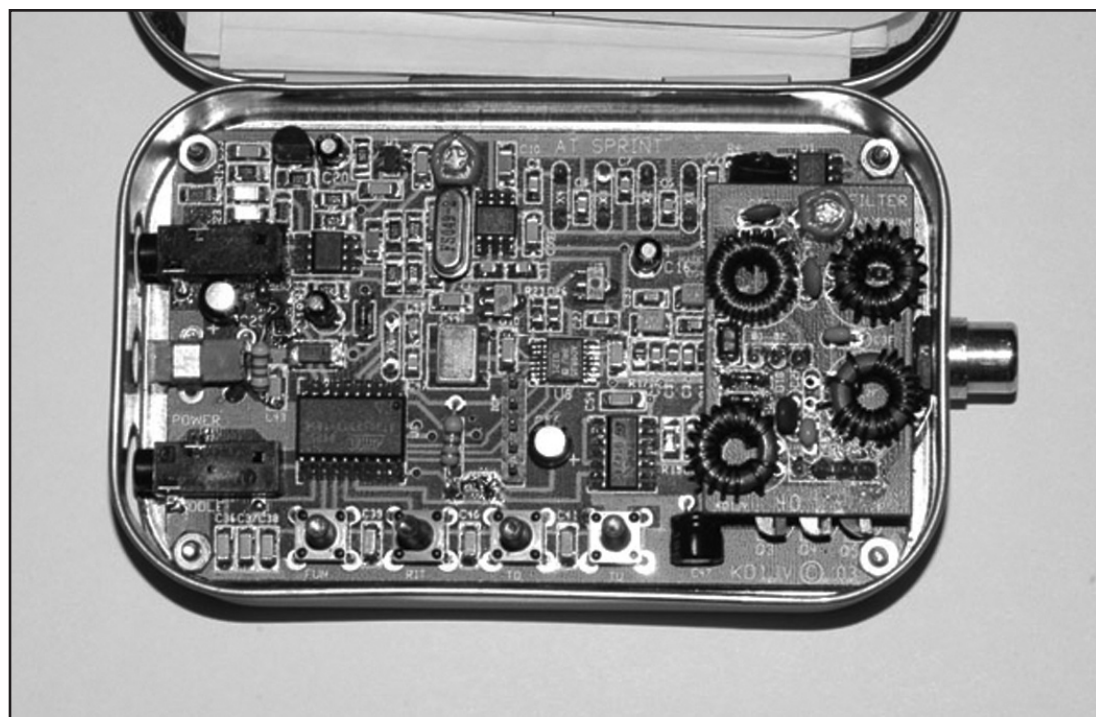
Simply put, it's a pretty powerful little radio.

Mr. Putnam has competed in the contest each of the three years he's been an ARS member.

The contest is judged on creativity, successful signal report and transmission power.

Messages are transmitted by a key – a light weight device like a paperclip – and four push buttons through Morse code.

An ear bud, exactly like the small headphones that come with an MP3 player, and an antenna are the only other auxiliary pieces needed to make it work.



Courtesy photo

Dale Putnam recently won the Amateur Radio Society's competition for creating the most interesting, and minuscule, amateur radio out of an old Altoid's tin. Mr Putnam is a land mobile radio technician with Warren contractor Remtech Services. The radio uses less power than a standard nightlight.

Mr. Putnam, continuing off the MacGyver method of the Altoid tin transmitter, used a 66-foot piece of wire for his antenna.

For the Colorado State University electrical engineering graduate, his fascination with amateur radios started when he received his first ham radio at Christmas.

"As a young teenager, my parents were scared 'spitless' that I was developing an interest in girls," Mr. Putnam joked. "So under the tree that Christmas was

my first ham radio."

From that young age, he said the ham radio opened the door to the rest of the world for him, one transmission at a time.

He traded transmissions about watching Sputnik, the Russian satellite that penetrated the stars first, with other "hams," he listened to transmissions from a Lithuanian college student while that country imploded; he's traded signals with heads of state and diplomats, King Hussein of Jordan and former Arizona

senator and presidential candidate Barry Goldwater, all from the magic of amateur radios.

"It's a good focusing vehicle for kids," he said. "It's educational, but it's also a lot of fun."

In today's broadband environment, it might be a formidable task for kids to get interested in amateur transmitters, but just as the ham radio inspired Mr. Putnam, there's no telling what a Christmas present in the hands of a child will lead to in the future.

Khobar, from Page 15

sensor now. There aren't enough cops out there to see everything. It's everybody's responsibility to report what's going on," said Sergeant Guerrero, who is from Modesto, Calif., and is now stationed at Barksdale Air Force Base, La. He teaches antiterrorism there and abroad.

The main focus of antiterrorism efforts is to make people a harder target to reach, said Tech. Sgt. Bryce Van Devender of the 37th Security Forces Squadron's antiterrorism department at Lackland AFB, Texas.

"The Air Force makes people less of a target by implementing random access measures, doing vulnerability assessments, giving awareness training, forming force protection and threat working groups, and creating structured emergency plans,"

the sergeant said.

But Sergeant Van Devender said no amount of precaution will eliminate the threat to American servicemembers, no matter where they serve.

"There always will be a threat from international terrorists, criminal threats, foreign intelligence, domestic terrorists and so on," he said. "The world is always changing and terrorism along with it. With the United States going to war against terrorism, we have to be aware of the threat at all times and make ourselves as unpredictable and uninviting as possible."

In a commentary that ran on Air Force Link in January 2006, Col. Brad Spacy, Air Force headquarters security forces and force protection

commander, said the Air Force needs to truly embrace the "every Airman is a warrior" culture. Airmen must enlist the whole force in defending an air base.

"All Airmen must be trained and equipped to man 'battle stations,' and leaders must be prepared to lead them in the ground fight," the colonel wrote.

Colonel Spacy reminds Airmen that the whole Air Force team will have to ensure the base remains protected from penetrative attacks and insider threats, and be ready to respond when called upon.

"This is the reality of the world today," he said.

Ten years after the fateful attack, Sergeant Oldham, of Shawneetown, Ill., still thinks of the tragedy in

Dhahran as surreal.

"You never expect something like that to happen to you," he said. "I wasn't expecting a terrorist attack, for God's sake."

Since the deadly attack, Sergeant Guerrero has lived being totally aware of his surroundings -- all the things the antiterrorism courses teach. He has instilled the practices into his day-to-day life, even when he books an airplane flight.

Sergeant Guerrero said people have to open their eyes and be more aware of their surroundings. They no longer have a choice.

"We simply can't walk around with blinders on," he said. "You're a target. Be cautious in what you do. Be observant. Know your threats. Train for the inevitable."

90 SSPTS take out 90 MOS at softball game



Photos by Master Sgt. Steven Goetsch

Staff Sgt. Clinton Griess, 90th Security Support Squadron, awaits the latest offering from 90th Maintenance Operations Squadron pitcher Airman 1st Class Justin Old during Monday's game here. The 90 SSPTS came out on top with a score of 28 to 11.



Above: Senior Airman Dusty York, 90th Security Support Squadron, awaits his teammates swing while Maj. Brian Rico, 90th Maintenance Operations Squadron positions himself for the force out at second base.

Left: Senior Airman Dusty York, 90th Security Support Squadron, mishandles a low throw in the dirt at second base during Monday's game against the 90th Maintenance Operations Squadron. The 90 SSPTS crushed the 90 MOS 28 to 11.

Warren hosted delegates last week from 26 NATO countries. But what is NATO and why is it important? Here are some facts to get you spun up on ...

The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation

Capt. Nicole Walters, 90th Space Wing Public Affairs deputy chief, recently sat down at her computer and pondered, “What’s up with all this NATO stuff?” What she found might change the way you think about international relationships and the cultural development influenced by democracy. OK, maybe not, but it’s still pretty interesting.

What is NATO?
The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (yes, with an s) is an alliance of 26 countries (Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States) from North America and Europe committed to fulfilling the goals of the North Atlantic Treaty signed on April 4, 1949.

OK—a treaty. What’s that all about?
The member countries, all of which are founded on the principles of democracy, individual liberty and the rule of law, desire to live in peace with all peoples and all governments, according to the treaty. So they got together, stated their faith in the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Moreover, determined to safeguard the freedom, heritage and civilization, they decided to unite to promote stability and well-being in the North Atlantic area.

That’s a lot of big words. What does NATO do?
NATO safeguards the freedom and security of member countries by political and military means and is playing an increasingly impor-

tant role in crisis management and peacekeeping.

That’s nice. But what does NATO do?
Right now, NATO is assisting in many humanitarian efforts. For example, there’s this place in the Sudan called Darfur, which has been torn by civil war since 1983. It started with drought, and now has cost Darfur 400,000 lives and displaced 2.5 million other citizens. The African Union requested help from NATO, and NATO has provided air transport for peacekeepers and troops, significantly boosting the force on the ground. It also has trained AU troops in strategic-level planning and operational procedures, and provided support to a UN-led map exercise.

When the Pakistan earthquake killed an estimated 80,000 people in October 2005, it also left up to 3 million without food or shelter just before the onset of the harsh Himalayan winter. NATO sent 168 flights and almost 3,500 tons of relief supplies, including thousands of tents, stoves and blankets necessary to protect the survivors from the cold. Also, NATO deployed engineers and medical units from the NATO Response Force to assist in the relief effort.

OK, you’ve sold me that NATO is a bunch of nice guys doing nice things. But why should I care?
NATO is pushing the issues that are important to you. They have a 45-year-old committee that promotes women in the military, and has made great strides in this arena. All but one nation belongs to this committee; Iceland is missing, because it has no military of its own.
NATO has taken an aggressive

THE 26 NATO COUNTRIES

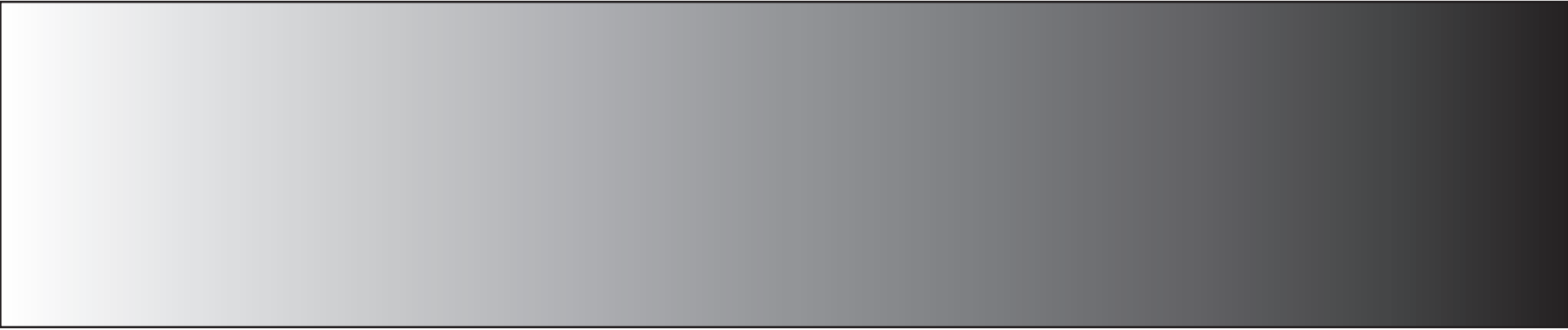
BELGIUM, BULGARIA, CANADA, THE CZECH REPUBLIC, DENMARK, ESTONIA, FRANCE, GERMANY, GREECE, HUNGARY, ICELAND, ITALY, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, LUXEMBOURG, THE NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, POLAND, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, SLOVAKIA, SLOVENIA, SPAIN, TURKEY, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES

stance against human trafficking. They want all NATO personnel taking part in NATO-led operations to receive appropriate awareness training and learn how this modern-day slavery trade impacts human rights, stability and security.
What NATO does impacts us, not only because the United States is a member, but because the U.S. military does a lot of work in the regions in the world affected by things like human trafficking, the war in Iraq and humanitarian efforts. The NATO stance is essential to safeguarding freedom, liberty and protecting individual rights worldwide.

So what does the base hope NATO gets out of CAPEX and why do the exercise?
The base hopes the delegates see the U.S. capability to respond to a nuclear weapons accident and strengthen the ties between NATO countries. CAPEX supports U.S.

obligations to the NATO-Russia Council, which agreed the nuclear powers of the NRC would host reciprocal field demonstrations on nuclear weapon accident and incident response procedures.
CAPEX is the third of four planned worldwide response demonstrations agreed upon by the NATO-Russia Council. Russia hosted the first demonstration, AVARIYA '04, in August 2004; the United Kingdom sponsored a similar event, SENATOR '05, in September 2005; and France will conduct a comparable exercise in 2007. The demonstration is the first of its kind in the United States.

I think you made this all up. Where can I go to check your facts?
You make me smile. Check out www.nato.int/, and <http://www.warren.af.mil/capex/capex.htm> for information and more groovy facts.



Progressive Jackpot

Progressive Jackpot is held every Friday night at the Trail's End Club. The jackpot increases \$25 each week up to \$1,000 or until won. A club member's name will be drawn each week. The winner must be present to win.

For more information, call 773-3048.

Mongolian night

Mongolian night is scheduled for 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the Trail's End Club. A children's plate (3 ounce choice of meat) costs \$4.95, light appetite (5 ounce choice of meat) costs \$7.95 and a hungry appetite plate (9 ounce choice of meat) costs \$10.95. Nonmembers are charged an additional \$2.

Reservations are recommended, call 773-3048.

Golf Pro Shop sale

The Red, White and Blue Sale is scheduled for Saturday to Tuesday at the Warren Golf Course. Bring purchases up to the counter and pop a balloon to save 5, 10, 20 or 50 percent.

For more information, call 773-3556.

Gold panning trip

Outdoor recreation is hosting a gold panning trip to Douglas Creek in the Snowy Mountain Range Saturday. The cost is \$20 per person. All gear and transportation is included.

For more information, call 773-2988.

Swim team

Warren Waves Swim Team is seeking youth ages 17 and younger who can demonstrate 25 yard front crawl and 25 yard backstroke and have knowledge in butterfly and breaststroke. Practice is 10 to 11 a.m. Monday through Thursday. The cost is \$30 per individual or \$45 for a family fee for two or more participants. Learn about stroke technique, workout building, participate in local swim meets and build endurance.

For more information, call 773-3195.

Ladies night at the wood shop

It's ladies night from 6 to 8:30 p.m. every

Wednesday at the base wood shop. Receive one-on-one instruction on any project. Taking the free safety orientation class is a prerequisite.

For more information, call 773-3166.

Bowling special

Bowl for \$5 per hour per lane during the Fourth of July weekend, Saturday to Monday, anytime lanes are available. Warren Lanes will be closed Tuesday.

For more information, call 773-2210.

Frontier Days tickets

Stop by outdoor recreation for CFD tickets.

For more information, call 773-2988.

Independence Fun Run

The 5K Independence Fun Run is scheduled for 10 a.m. July 8 here. Sign up at Freedom Hall. Free T-shirts will be given to the first 50 participants to sign up and complete the run. The run starts at the fam camp pavilion.

For more information, call 773-6172.

Summer reading program

The summer reading program Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales, is open to children ages 7 and under. Children may read, or be read to. Participants may read anything that interests them—from the library, or from their own collection.

The summer reading program runs through Aug. 18. Prizes are to be given with each level completed.

For more information, call 773-3416.

Children's story hour

Story hour is held every Friday at 11 a.m. at the library.

Today's theme is patriotic. For more information, call 773-3416.

Wireless Internet at library

The base library now has wireless Internet.

For more information, call 773-3416.

Golf 4 Kids

Children ages 8 to 13 are invited to learn to play golf. Golf 4 Kids sessions are 10

a.m. to noon Monday to Thursday, July 10 to 13 or July 17 to 20. Advanced registration required. Participants receive use of a junior club set, Golf 4 Kids logo T-shirt, cap, golf towel, neon tee pack and bag tag, rules and etiquette brochures and a graduation certificate. The cost is \$99.

For more information, call the Warren Golf Course at 773-3556.

Base lakes pavilion

The base lakes pavilion, located near South Lake Pearson, has been renovated, enclosed, and heated for year-round use. Reservations may be made at any time, based on availability. A 48-hour cancellation policy applies. Rental fee is \$35 per use.

For more information, call outdoor recreation at 773-2988.

Hip hop dance lessons

Learn hip hop dance from 6 to 7 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday at the community center. The cost is \$30 per month. This class is for ages 18 and up.

For more information, call 773-3511.

Commissary OPEN July 4th

Normal Hours
10 a.m to 7 p.m.

EARLY BIRD SHOPPING (LIMITED SERVICE)
7 TO 10 a.m.

Commanders Access Channel 19

EVENT	TIME
Base Advertising	12 to 12:30 a.m.
Pentagon Channel	12:30 to 3 a.m.
Base Advertising	3 to 3:30 a.m.
Pentagon Channel	3:30 to 5 a.m.
Base Advertising	5 to 7:01 a.m.
Peacekeeper Deactivation Video	7:01 to 7:06 a.m.
Base Advertising	7:06 to 8 a.m.
Pentagon Channel	8 to 9 a.m.
Base Advertising	9 to 9:01 a.m.
Peacekeeper Deactivation Video	9:01 to 9:06 a.m.
Base Advertising	9:06 to 9:30 a.m.
Pentagon Channel	9:30 to 12 p.m.
Base Advertising	12:00 to 12:01 p.m.
Peacekeeper Deactivation Video	12:01 to 12:06 p.m.
Base Advertising	12:06 to 12:30 p.m.
Pentagon Channel	12:30 to 3 p.m.
Base Advertising	3 to 3:01 p.m.
Peacekeeper Deactivation Video	3:01 to 3:06 p.m.
Base Advertising	3:06 to 3:30
Pentagon Channel	3:30 to 5 p.m.
Base Advertising	5 to 5:01 p.m.
Peacekeeper Deactivation Video	5:01 to 5:06 p.m.
Base Advertising	5:06 to 5:30 p.m.
Pentagon Channel	5:30 to 7 p.m.
Base Advertising	7 to 7:01 p.m.
Peacekeeper Deactivation Video	7:01 to 7:06 p.m.
Base Advertising	7:06 to 7:30 p.m.
Pentagon Channel	7:30 to 9 p.m.
Base Advertising	9 to 9:30 p.m.
Pentagon Channel	9:30 p.m. to 12 a.m.

Tune in for the latest base information

